



NEWS RELEASE

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Aug. 4, 2014

Homeless Man Charged with Killing of Good Samaritan

A homeless man was charged today with the death of a Good Samaritan who defended a toddler that was allegedly being berated by the man at a fast food restaurant, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Jeremy Harris (dob 6/21/78) was charged with one count of voluntary manslaughter in case BA427832. Arraignment is scheduled today in Department 30 of the Foltz Criminal Justice Center.

Victim Gabriel Ortega was at a McDonald's Restaurant in Hollywood on June 18 when he observed the defendant yelling and swearing at a 3-year-old boy not related to him, prosecutors said.

When Ortega told the defendant to stop and stepped in front of the boy, Harris punched him several times in the face and head, prosecutors added.

Two days later, the Good Samaritan was hospitalized and ultimately died on July 14.

Bail for Harris is recommended at \$100,000. If convicted as charged, he faces 11 years in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department, Olympic Division.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.